Case 2:17-cv-01314-GAM Document 1 Filed 03/17/27 Page 1 of 12 11

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)		CIVIL C	OVE	R SHEET	1	() ·	514		
The JS 44 civil cover sheet and provided by local rules of cour purpose of initiating the civil decivil decivi	the information contained he t. This form, approved by the ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTION	rein neither replace nor Judicial Conference of ONS ON NEXT PAGE OF	supplen the Uni THIS FO	nent the filing and service ted States in September 1 PRM.)	e of pleading 974, is requi	s or other papers a red for the use of	as required by law, e the Glerk of Court A	acept as	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Michael Rivers & Mikea Rivers				DEFENDANTS First Calss Auto Land & Sales & John Does 1-10					
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A Schafkopf Law, LLC; 11 I 610-664-5200 Weisberg Law; 7 South M	<u> </u>	01	Attorneys (If Known)			/,			
II. BASIS OF JURIŞDI	CTION (Place on "X" in One	Box Only)	II. CI	TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Bo	ox for Plainti	
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	M 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government No		((For Diversity Cases Only) P1 en of This State	F DEF	Incorporated or Print of Business In Tl	and One Box for Defe PTF ncipal Place	endant) DEF	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	Diversity (Indicate Citizenship)	of Parties in Item III)		en of Another State		Incorporated and Prof Business In A			
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	[m	L		reign Country					
CONTRACT	TOR'		FO	RECEIVEPERALITY	BAN	KRUPTCY	OTHERSTAT	UTES	
 □ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans 	□ 310 Airplane □ 365 Personal In □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 367 Health Care Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 368 Asbestos Personal Inj	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product		5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Other	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 □ PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark		□ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit		
(Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability ☐ 360 Other Personal	Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability		LABOR Fair Labor Standards Act Labor/Management Relations Railway Labor Act I Family and Medical Leave Act Other Labor Litigation	SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))		490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration		
REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	□ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: 1 463 Alien Detainee 1 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 1 530 General 1 535 Death Penalty Other: 1 540 Mandamus & Other	☐ 462	I Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Naturalization Application Other Immigration	☐ 870 Taxes or De ☐ 871 IRS—	L TAX SUITS (U.S. Plaintiff fendant) -Third Party SC 7609	□ 899 Administrative Act/Review or Agency Decisi □ 950 Constitutionali State Statutes	Appeal of on	
V. ODICIN SI	448 Education	1 550 Civil Rights 1 555 Prison Condition 1 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement		Actions					
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) 1 Original □ 2 Removed from □ 3 Remanded from □ 4 Reinstated or □ 5 Transferred from □ 6 Multidistrict Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District (specify)									
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 28 U.S.C. Section 1331 Brief description of cause:									
Plaintiffs purchased a vehicle from Defendants who engaged in fraudulent financing tactics VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. DEMAND S CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. JURY DEMAND: Yes □ No									
VIII. RELATED CASE(S)									

(See instructions): IF ANY DOCKET NUMBER JUDGE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

AMOUNT

RECEIPT#

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

Case 2.17-cv-01314-GAM Document 1 Filed 03/17/17 Page 2 of 12 3 1 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 17 13 1 4 ERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — BESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA assignment to appropriate calendar.

Address of Plaintiff: 6201 North 10th Street, Phialdelphia PA 19141					
Address of Plaintiff: 6201 North Toth Street, Philadelphia PA 19141 Address of Defendant: 1107 West Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19140	<u> </u>				
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 1107 West Erie Avenue, Philadel (Use Reverse Side For					
·		\sim			
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation		<i>f</i>	of its stock?		
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)	Yes	;□ / No) X			
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes	II NoX			
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:					
Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:	$\overline{}$,		
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:					
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one y	ear previously terminated action in	this court?			
	Yes				
Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior action in this court?	suit pending or within one year pre	viously terminated			
	Yes	□ No X			
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier in		_ ` ` _ `			
terminated action in this court?	Yes	□ N° > X			
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil right	ts case filed by the same individual	?			
	Yes				
CIVIL: (Place / in One Category only)					
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction (
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	1. □ Insurance Contra	act and Other Co	ntracts		
2. □ FELA	2. D Airplane Person	al Injury			
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. Assault, Defama	tion			
4. 🗆 Antitrust	4. D Marine Personal	Injury			
5. Patent	5. D Motor Vehicle P	ersonal Injury			
6. 🗆 Labor-Management Relations	6. D Other Personal L	njury (Please spe	cify)		
7. D Civil Rights	7. Products Liabilit	У			
8. 🗆 Habeas Corpus	8. Products Liability — Asbestos				
9./D\ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. All other Diversity Cases				
0. D Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)				
1.× All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) Equal Credit Opportunity Act					
ARBITRATION CERTI	IFICATION				
Gary Schafkopf (Check Appropriate Ca	itegory) y:				
□ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and b	belief, the damages recoverable in t	his civil action case	exceed the sum of		
150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs; Relief other than monetary damages is sought.					
Ch. Sal la	,				
ATE:		83362			
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if ther		Attorney I.D.#			
certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or v	vithin one year previously termin	ated action in this	court		
scept as noted above.		1	MAR 17 20		
ATE:	<i>!</i>	83362			
IV. 609 (5/2012)	A	ttorney I.D.#			



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

1314

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Michael Rivers and M	likea Rivers	:	CIVIL ACTION				
v.		:					
First Class Auto Land & John Does (1-10)	& Sale Inc and	:	NO.				
plaintiff shall complete a Ca filing the complaint and serv side of this form.) In the designation, that defendants	se Management To be a copy on all defe- event that a defend shall, with its first rties, a Case Mana	rack Designation of the conduction of the conduc	duction Plan of this court, couns on Form in all civil cases at the time 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reagree with the plaintiff regarding bmit to the clerk of court and ser Designation Form specifying the	me of everse g said ve on			
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	OLLOWING CAS	SE MANAGE	MENT TRACKS:				
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.							
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. ()							
(c) Arbitration - Cases requ	ired to be designat	ed for arbitrati	on under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	()			
(d) Asbestos – Cases involv exposure to asbestos.	ing claims for pers	sonal injury or	property damage from	()			
(e) Special Management – Commonly referred to as the court. (See reverse smanagement cases.)	complex and that	need special of	r intense management by				
(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.							
3-6-17	Gary Schafko	opf, Esq	Plaintiffs				
Date	Attorney-at-	law	Attorney for				
610-664-3200 Ext 104	888-283-1334		gary@schaflaw.com				
Telephone	FAX Numb	er	E-Mail Address				

(Civ. 660) 10/02

MAR 17 2017

cument 1 Filed 03/17/17 Page 4 of 12 £ase 2:17-cv-0131

WEISBERG LAW

Matthew B. Weisberg, Attorney ID No.: 85570

7 South Morton Ave. Morton, PA 19070 610-690-0801 Fax: 610-690-0880

Attorney for Plaintiff

SCHAFKOPF LAW, LLC

Gary Schafkopf, Attorney ID No. 83362

1314

11 Bala Ave

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 610-664-5200 Ext 104

Fax: 888-283-1334 **Attorney for Plaintiff**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

MICHAEL RIVERS

6201 North 10th Street Philadelphia, PA 19141

and

MIKEA RIVERS

6201 North 10th Street Philadelphia, PA 19141

Plaintiffs

v.

FIRST CLASS AUTO LAND & SALE,

1107 West Erie Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19140

and

JOHN DOES 1-10

Defendants.

No.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CIVIL ACTION COMPLAINT

PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff, Michael Rivers, is an adult individual residing at the above-captioned address.
- 2. Plaintiff, Mikea Rivers, is an adult individual residing at the above-captioned address.

4. Defendants, John Does 1-10, is a moniker/fictitious name for individuals and entities currently unknown but will be substituted when known, as affiliated, associated or liable hereunder for the reasons set forth below or inferred there from. Each of these parties are incorporated as Defendants in each and every count and averment listed above and below, Upon information and belief, Defendants, John Does, were agents, servants, workmen, or employees of Co-Defendants, liable to Plaintiffs hereunder.

JURISDICTION and VENUE

- 5. Venue is proper in the in The United States District Court for The Eastern District of Pennsylvania because this is where the transactions and occurrences that give rise to the cause of action have taken place.
- 6. The matter arises out of a federal law and thus The United States District Court has jurisdiction over this matter. 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

OPERATIVE FACTS

- 7. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant acted by and through their agents, servants, and employees who acted within the scope of their authority and within the course of their employment.
- In February 2016, Plaintiffs went to Defendant First Class Auto Land to purchase a vehicle.
- While on the lot, a salesperson showed them a 2009 Mazda 6-series. Plaintiffs decided to purchased the vehicle.

1

- 10. Plaintiffs intended to purchase the vehicle for Plaintiff Mikea Rivers, and would use Plaintiff Michael Rivers as the person to finance the vehicle. The Salesperson took all of the information that they would need for financing from Michael Rivers, as well as a down payment for the vehicle from Mikea Rivers in the amount of \$1000.
- 11. Plaintiffs submitted all requested documents at the time of the transaction.
- 12. Defendant promised to submit the information to the bank, and told Plaintiffs that first payment was due on March 18, 2016, in the amount of \$500.
- 13. Plaintiffs then took possession of the vehicle with permission of Defendant, and left Defendant's dealership.
- 14. Plaintiffs learned on March 15, 2016, that the bank that Defendant had submitted their information to had decided not to finance Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs attempted to contact Defendant with this information, and Defendant did not respond.
- 15. On or about March 19, 2016, Defendant, having not received a payment in the amount \$500, and without no warning or indication to Plaintiffs, had the purchased vehicle towed, and repossessed.
- 16. Plaintiffs, unaware that their vehicle had been repossessed, believed their car to have been stolen and filed a police report.
- 17. Plaintiffs then came to learn that the vehicle had been repossessed, and contacted Defendant immediately.
- 18. Plaintiffs indicated to Defendant that they were aware that the deal with the bank did not go through, and thus had no where to pay for the vehicle. Defendant indicated that in that case Plaintiffs should have paid Defendant directly.

- 19. Defendant indicated to Plaintiffs that they were aware that the bank had decided not to approve financing for Michael Rivers, and said that the original salesperson was working on another deal with a different bank in order to acquire financing.
- 20. Plaintiffs then resubmitted the original information again to Defendant in order to acquire a new loan or financing for the vehicle.
- 21. On or about March 23, 2016, Plaintiffs learned that there was no attempt made by Defendant to secure another form of loan or financing for the vehicle. Plaintiffs confronted Defendant in order to have their down payment of \$1000 returned, but Defendant would not return the money because miles had been put on the vehicle by its operation and use.
- 22. Plaintiff has been and will continue to be financially damaged due to Defendant's actions in stealing the Vehicle from them.
- 23. The established business practices described above and below were part of a systematic business practice called "spot delivery" or "yo-yo delivery" intended to secure for Defendant unearned dealer profits.
- 24. The established "spot delivery" or "yo-yo delivery" practices described above and below are unlawful, deceptive, misleading, and fraudulent.
- 25. The established "spot delivery" or "Yo-Yo delivery" practices described above and below commenced prior to the execution of any agreement, were designed and intended to induce the Plaintiff to enter into an agreement, and persisted after the apparent agreement was consummated.
- 26. During all times relevant the Defendant deceived the Plaintiffs into believing Defendant's actions were lawful, and/or concealed their actions' unlawful nature.

- 27. At all times relevant, the Plaintiffs relied on Defendant's apparent and claimed experience, sophistication and expertise in selling and/or financing motor vehicles and allowed the Vehicle to be repossessed.
- 28. The Defendant held managerial and/or supervisory control over all of their agents and all of the policies and procedures involved and/or at issue in this matter.
- 29. The Defendant directly and personally participated in the development, adoption and/or execution of the policies and practices at issue herein.

COUNT I VIOLATION OF ECOA

- 30. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 31. This Court has jurisdiction to decide claims brought under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, 15 USC 1691, et seq, pursuant to 15 USC 1691e(f).
- 32. Plaintiffs are an "applicant" as the term is defined in the ECOA, 15 USC §1691a(b).
- 33. Defendant is a "creditor" as the term is defined in the ECOA, 15 USC §1691a(e).
- 34. Plaintiffs completed a credit application and/or one was completed on their behalf and otherwise applied to Defendant for credit in connection with their purchase of the subject vehicle from Defendant.
- 35. Under the provisions of the ECOA, Defendant was required to give notice of their decision on that credit application to Plaintiffs within 30 days of receipt.
- 36. In the event that such credit was approved, the provisions of ECOA permitted

 Defendant to provide that notice by means other than written communication, 15

 USC §1691(d)(1) and (2).
- 37. Defendant never informed Plaintiffs that they had not been approved for credit in the transaction to purchase the Vehicle.

- 38. At the time that Defendant informed Plaintiff that he had been approved for credit, Defendant knew or had reason to know that Defendant would not actually extend credit to Plaintiffs.
- 39. Defendant later informed Plaintiffs by their repossession of the Vehicle that they did not qualify for credit to purchase the subject vehicle, and credit was denied, effectively terminating the transaction.
- 40. The original notice of approval given to Plaintiff was false, and, in general, a violation of the provisions of 15 USC §1691(d). Thus, the false notice of credit approval was used as the "bait" in a "bait and switch" which was designed to defraud Plaintiffs into purchasing the vehicle on terms which were less advantageous to Plaintiffs.
- 41. The subsequent denial, the revocation of credit, and the vehicle repossession by

 Defendant constituted an "adverse action" as the phrase is defined in the ECOA, 15

 USC §1691(d).
- 42. After taking adverse action on Plaintiffs' credit application for the subject vehicle, Defendant were required to provide written notice of that adverse action within 30 days of taking that action, 15 USC §1692a.
- 43. Defendant failed or refused to provide that written notice to Plaintiff in violation of 15 USC §1692a.
- 44. Defendant, at all times, were required to maintain such records or other data relating to such loans as may be necessary to evidence compliance with ECOA or to enforce any action pursuant to the authority under the Act, 15 USC §1692b.

45. Upon information and belief, Defendant failed or refused to maintain records of that transaction which would fulfill the provisions of ECOA, in violation of 15 USC §1691b.

COUNT II UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES AND CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW ("UTPCPL")

- 46. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the prior paragraphs as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 47. The Defendant knew that the Plaintiffs had no special knowledge in the purchase, financing and condition of automobiles and would rely on their representations.
- 48. The actions and omissions of the Defendant as hereinbefore and hereinafter described, including but not limited to Defendant's enumerated acts in herein, constitute violations of the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, 73 Pa.C.S.A. sec 201-1 et seq.

COUNT III CONVERSION

- 49. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 50. The actions of the Defendant in repossessing the car as above described constituted conversion of plaintiff's Vehicle.
- 51. Plaintiff was damaged by Defendant's actions in the amount of the car's value.
- 52. Defendant's conduct was willful and intentional including its aforesaid representations to plaintiff that law enforcement was or was to be imminently involved in the car's repossession and the plaintiff would be subject to arrest.

COUNT IV FRAUD

- 53. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the prior paragraphs as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 54. Prior to the execution of the contract, the Defendant and those identified on any sales documents for Vehicle who, expressly or impliedly made the following representations about the Vehicle and the transactions.
- 55. Defendants represented that the vehicle was going to be financed by using Plaintiff
 Michael Rivers credit through a bank that Defendant worked with.
- 56. That upon successfully securing the loan for the vehicle in the name of Plaintiff Michael Rivers, that payments would be made to the bank that Defendant was working with.
- 57. The misrepresentations and omissions identified in the immediately preceding paragraphs were known to the Defendant to be false when made, were material in nature, and were made with the intent to deceive, defraud and/or induce the Plaintiffs, and in fact, induced them to purchase the vehicle at the price listed in the purchase agreement.
- 58. The Defendant knew that Plaintiffs had no special knowledge in the purchase, financing and condition of automobiles and would rely on their representations.
- 59. The Plaintiffs relied on the Defendant's misrepresentations and were induced to sign the RISC and other documents related to which they apparently and ostensibly purchased and financed the aforementioned vehicle.
- 60. As a result of the aforementioned conduct, Plaintiff suffered damages outlined above and below, including but not limited to:
 - a. Deprived of the use and enjoyment of the vehicle;

b. Incurred cost of replacement vehicles;

c. Spent time resolving problems created by Defendant's breach;

d. Incurred other incidental and consequential damages, including emotional

distress;

COUNT V FRADULENT MISREPRESENTATION

61. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all of the prior paragraphs as if fully set forth at

length herein.

62. Defendant through their acts and their RISC agreement, held themselves out as

creditor to the transaction, which they knew Plaintiff would rely upon.

63. Defendant's misrepresentations including informing the Plaintiffs that they would be

approved for credit when the Defendant knew this to be untrue, and failing to disclose

the rejection of the Plaintiffs credit application by the bank, represent fraud.

64. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered

monetary losses and incurred legal fees, costs, and expenses

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully prays that judgment be entered against

Defendants, individually, jointly and/or severally, in excess of seventy-five thousand

(\$75,000.00) along with compensatory, actual and punitive damages, together with

interest, costs, and attorneys' fees, plus other and further equitable relief.

Respectfully Submitted,

WEISBERG LAW

BY: /s/ Matthew Weisberg

MATTHEW B. WEISBERG, ESQ

DATED: 3-6-17

SCHAFKOPF LAW, LLC

GARVSCHAFKOPE ES

GARY/SCHÁFKOPF, E/SC

DATÉD: 3 - 6 - 17